

Message Text

SECRET

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44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O 191700Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8650

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC ISA/DSAA

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

S E C R E T RABAT 2751

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MO, IR, JO

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MOROCCO

REF: (A) TEHRAN 5005, (B) RABAT 2593

1. SECGEN ADMIN NAT'L DEFENSE, COLONEL ACHAHBAR, CALLED CHIEF MUSLO TO HIS OFFICE NOON MAY 19, AND GAVE HIM YET ANOTHER LETTER REGARDING REPLACEMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR 16 HOWITZERS (M109A1B) TO BE RECEIVED FROM IRAN. ORIGINAL FRENCH TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS: UEMUDATE. FAISANT SUITE A VOS LETTRES DE REFERENCE, J'AI L'HONNEUR DE VOUS FAIRE CONNAITRE QU'EN REMPLACEMENT DES SEIZE OBUSIERS M 109 A1 B 155 M/M B HOWITZERS SELF-PROPELLED QUI SERONT TRANSFERES PAR L'IRAN AU MAROC, L'ADMINISTRATION DE LA DEFENSE NATIONALE DONNE SON ACCORD POUR QUE LES AUTORITES IRANIENNES PRELEVENT DIRECTEMENT EN LIEU ET PLACE DES AUTORITES MAROCAINES LE MEME NOMBRE D'OBUSIERS DE MEME TYPE ET DES MEMES SPECIFICATIONS SUR LA CHAINE DE PRODUCTION RESERVES PAR LES ETATS-UNIS AU MAROC.

2. PAR AILLEURS JE VOUS INFORME QUE L'ENGAGEMENT DE NON TRANSFERT A UNE TIERCE PARTIE SANS OBTENIR AU PREALABLE L'ACCORD PAR ECRIT DES ETATES-UNIS VOUS A ETE REMIS PAR
SECRET

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LES SOINS DE MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE D'ETAT CHARGE DES

AFFAIRES ETRANGERES.

3. VEUILLEZ EGALEMENT ETRE INFORME QUE LE GOUVERNEMENT DU MAROC ET LE GOUVERNEMENT D'IRAN ONT MUTUELLEMENT CONVENU DE LA PROCEDURE PRECITEE ET QUE LES ASPECTS FINANCIERS DE CET ARRANGEMENT SERONT REGLES ENTRE LES DEUX GOUVERNEMENTS. UNQUOTE.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT FRENCH TEXT OF ACHAHBAR'S MAY 11 LETTER (REF B) INADVERTENTLY OMITTED SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO PRODUCTION LINE ("LA CHAINE DE PRODUCTION") AND THEREFORE FAILED TO MEET IRANIAN REQUIREMENT THAT GOM EXPLICITLY AGREE TO RELINQUISHING ITS PLACE ON PRODUCTION LINE FOR 16 HOWITZERS. LETTER QUOTED ABOVE WAS RESULT OF INITIATIVE GOI AMBASSADOR NAYERI TOOK WITH GOM TO RECTIFY THIS OMISSION.

5. NAYERI PAID RETURN COURTESY CALL ON ME LATE AFTER-NOON MAY 19 DURING WHICH HE CONFIRMED (A) HE HAD ALSO RECEIVED LETTER IDENTICAL TO THE ONE QUOTED ABOVE, AND (B) IN HIS OPINION THIS RESOLVED LAST REMAINING PROBLEMS AND CLEARED WAY FOR CONSUMMATION OF TRANSACTION.
ANDERSON

SECRET

NNN

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